

In one night,
(September 21 to 22)
between **DA NANG**
and **NHA TRANG**

VIETNAM COURIER

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Sept. 30
1968
No 184
5th Year

THE P.L.A.F. ATTACKED 120 TARGETS

among them 5 cities and provincial capitals, 12 urban centres and district towns and 7 airfields including those of Da Nang, Nuoc Man, Chu Lai and Nha Trang

- 9 enemy battalions and 9 companies wiped out or decimated throughout South Viet Nam in 9 days (including 5 battalions and 6 companies in 6 days in the Tay Ninh sector).
- A battalion of Thai mercenaries completely destroyed East of Saigon.
- Nha Be oil complex at the gates of Saigon again pounded.

page 8

Up to September 25, 1968

**3,188 U.S. aircraft were
downed in North Viet Nam**

A Victor's Smile



THIS is the picture of Vo Thi Thang, 23, a former student of the Gia Long Secondary School (Saigon) who on July 27, 1968 put to death the tyrannical puppet district chief of Phu Lam. Sentenced by a U.S.-Saigon court to 20 years' hard labour, she challenged the verdict with a calm, proud smile that so strikingly reflected her undauntedness in face of the enemy.

Vo Thi Thang's smile pours scorn on all the unlawful, fascist trials conducted by the

U.S. aggressors and their henchmen in an attempt to intimidate the urban people of South Vietnam, more particularly the students and pupils. It is a forceful expression of the impetuous morale of the townsfolk of South Vietnam in their present widespread uprisings. On the other hand, it brings into bolder relief the isolation of the U.S. and puppets on their last legs. Her smile, full of optimism and confidence, spells out again that "the South Vietnamese people are winning and will win completely."

23rd ANNIVERSARY OF NAM BO RESISTANCE DAY

FOR INDEPENDENCE AND FREEDOM, ALL FOR OUR VICTORY OVER U.S. AGGRESSION!

(Excerpts from Nhan Dan's editorial, Sept. 23, 1968)

TWENTY three years ago, the gunfire of the Nam Bo (ex—Cochinchina) Resistance burst in the heart of Saigon-Cholon, touching off the sacred resistance of our people against the French colonialist aggressors and the U.S. interventionists.

Throughout the past 23 years the people in the Southern part of our country have been displaying their iron will to fight for the independence and freedom of the Fatherland and their boundless loyalty to the Independence oath made in the

Declaration of Independence read by President Thieu Dinh at the Ba Dinh Square on the historic day of September 2nd, 1945. For independence and freedom, the people of Nam Bo, then those of Southern Trung Bo (ex-Annam), rose up against the French invaders, using everything at their disposal—rifles, swords, spears, knives and sticks—against the aggressors. Shoulder to shoulder with the rest of the country, the South Vietnamese people fought for nine long years, fearless of difficulties and sacrifices, building their forces in the course of the fighting and making a great contribution to the defeat of the French aggressors and the liberation of North Viet Nam. For independence and freedom, after several years of grim struggle in the dark days of the U.S.—Ngo Dinh Diem fascist regime,

the South Vietnamese people again stood up in the concerted uprisings of 1959-1960, switched over to the offensive against the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen, continuously developed their all-round people's war, foiling one after another all schemes and plans of the U.S., and have brought the anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation to the present stage of general offensives and widespread uprisings. In their heroic fight, the South Vietnamese people have promoted to a high peak the noble traditions of the nation and acquired invaluable experience in revolutionary action. As in the past war of resistance against the French colonialists, in the present fight against the U.S. aggressors, despite innumerable hardships, they continue to fight with the same pride and

(Continued page 2)

'All Vietnamese Should Rise Up Together to Defend National Freedom and Independence'

States Saigon student Nguyen Van Chin at a puppet press conference

IN an attempt to intimidate the patriotic movement of students and pupils, the Thieu-Ky clique produced at a news conference in Saigon on September 17 three patriotic students whom they had illegally arrested in Cho Lon twelve days ago on charges of keeping "Vietcong" documents, according to Saigon reports.

The students were aged 16, 23 and 24.

At the news conference, colonel Tran Van Hai, the puppet police chief, tried to misrepresent and discredit the patriotic movement of the students against the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen.

Far from being cowed, the accused strongly denounced American aggression and reaffirmed in unequivocal terms

their patriotic stand.

Nguyen Van Chin, 24, student of the Social Sciences Faculty of Van Hanh University in Saigon, said: "I object to the presence of foreigners here and pressure from foreigners on our country. Viet Nam must regain her independence and sovereignty." Nguyen Van Chin stressed, "The Americans are here for their own interests, not for those of Viet Nam. Viet Nam must settle their affairs themselves."

Asked if he thought "the North was invading the South", Nguyen Van Chin said: "I do not make any difference between the North and the South. When the country is in danger, all Vietnamese should rise up together to defend national freedom and independence."

Xa Doai (Nghe An Province) diocese area turned into rubble by U.S. bombs



The cathedral before...



In the cathedral, only this inscription was left: "Omnia terra adoret te et palat tibi" (Earth adores thee and everything praises thee).



...and after the July 1968 U.S. raids.



The great seminary...



...and the small seminary after the bombings.

THE commune said that excluding the enemy losses caused by artillery shelling and not yet tabulated, in the period from August 18 to September 21, the P.L.A.F. killed, wounded or captured 14,000 enemy troops including 10,900 G.I.s. In terms of units, they wiped out 18 battalions comprising 14 U.S. and one puppet battalions, and 43 companies composed of 28 U.S. and 15 puppet companies. In addition, two American battalions and five puppet battalions were heavily decimated.

The P.L.A.F. also destroyed 1,335 military vehicles including 835 armoured cars, 138 big guns and mortars, shot down 85 aircraft and sank to combat launches.

MANY-SIDED SUCCESSES

1. —HUS, within five weeks, the army and people in Tay Ninh completely knocked out of action an over strength brigade of the 25th U.S. Infantry Division, wiping out a number of American troops equivalent to the actual combat force of a U.S. infantry division in the field. In terms of units, they wiped out a number of U.S. battalions greater than the total number of battalions making up a U.S. infantry division. The number of armoured cars destroyed equaled the total of armoured cars of a U.S. motorized infantry division, and that of big guns destroyed also surpassed the amount of artillery pieces at the disposal of a U.S. infantry division. The army and people in Tay Ninh also wiped out or heavily decimated many units of the general reserve and "special force" of the puppet army. Of the 10 battalions of the general reserve force and regular force of the puppet army dispatched to Tay Ninh, 6 battalions were either wiped out or heavily depleted.

2. In co-ordination with military actions, hundreds of

thousands of people of various nationalities and religious communities from towns in the country rose up and took to the streets to stage a resolute struggle against the enemy. Several rallies drew thousands of people and several political demonstrations were joined in by the people to denounce the crimes committed by the U.S.

The Tay Ninh people have reconquered their right to be masters, at varying degree, of their own destiny in scores of villages and hamlets with an aggregate population of hundreds of thousands.

3. The campaign of political agitation among puppet troops was very active. Hundreds of families of puppet officers and soldiers were given bricks on the N.E.F. policy, and many of them volunteered to talk their dear ones out of the puppet ranks. This resulted in the desertion of more than 1,000 troops or personnel of the puppet administration.

OUTSTANDING FEATURES

1. **The People's Liberation Army Forces and people** completely held the initiative in hitting the enemy hard and completely ally in all parts of the province, forcing him into actions of the general reserve and regular force of the puppet army. They inflicted on the enemy heavy losses averaging daily 400 men killed or wounded, nearly 40 military vehicles and 4 heavy guns destroyed, and 2 planes shot down.

2. **All the three categories of armed forces** — regular regional forces and guerrillas — have recorded glorious victories in the same place or on the same section of road. Thus within 5 days, the P.L.A.F. in Cha La fought 2 battles, wiping out two mixed battalions and one artillery battalion of the U.S. totalling 1,150 men, destroying 300 military vehicles and

ON TAY NINH FRONT

In Five Weeks (from August 18 to September 21), F.L.A.F. Violent and Relentless Attacks and Local People's Sweeping Uprisings Inflicted Considerable Losses on U.S. puppet.

On an average, one enemy company wiped out, one battalion put out of action or decimated every day.

Excerpts from September 23, 1968
communiqué of Tay Ninh Front's P.L.A.F. Command

While the U.S. troops were coping with the big enemy attacks on the outer perimeter, smaller units of the P.L.A.F. like sharp dagger points, penetrated deep into the rear of the enemy for co-ordinated, annihilation actions with the regional forces and guerrillas.

The splendid teamwork between the liberation forces and the troops of the Capitalist Major Huynh Thanh Mung was also a factor of the victories in Tay Ninh.

The P.L.A.F. have made spectacular progress in the mounting of ambushes and surprise attacks as well as in the assaulting of armoured columns and the fighting against enemy planes. Almost all the 80-odd enemy planes grounded in the period under review were shot down while raiding the heavily populated areas of flying cover for ground troops. Many F-4s were downed on the spot.

The enemy received repeated beating within a short period in the same place or on the same section of road. Thus within 5 days, the P.L.A.F. in Cha La fought 2 battles, wiping out two mixed battalions and one artillery battalion of the U.S. totalling 1,150 men, destroying 300 military vehicles and

31 heavy guns. Within less than 4 weeks, they attacked four times the Tra Phi base, wiping out 3 mixed battalions of the enemy and 5 U.S. companies totalling 1,600 men, and destroying 200 military vehicles and 40 heavy guns. Between September 10 and September 19, the P.L.A.F. launched surprise attacks against U.S. positions in Ben Cu, knocking down nearly 1,100 G.I.s.

3. The P.L.A.F. have proved devastating for both U.S. and puppet troops, and for both their manpower and war means. The main forces of the enemy defending Saigon, namely the U.S. 25th Division and the puppet General Reserve, got particularly violent blows. The puppet commands, organized, equipped, trained and commanded by the U.S. to sabotage the revolutionary bases and carry out harassing activities against Cambodia, lost 8 of their 30 companies based in Tay Ninh.

4. The commune then mentioned the people's part in the military actions which were closely co-ordinated with the P.L.A.F. military attacks and were disastrous for the U.S.-puppets, seriously aggravating their passivity and completely weakening their strength.

5. In the course of 5 weeks, U.S. and puppet troops, either garrisoned in the province or coming as reinforcements from other places, were hard hit and lost all combat initiative. Troop units dispatched by the enemy to fill the breaches on its defence lines were wiped out by the P.L.A.F. in some places even 4 or 5 times running.

The morale of enemy troops, both U.S. and puppet, has sunk lower and lower, the communiqué said. Not rare were the cases of enemy units refusing the battle or leaving in the lurch their parties, or abandoning on the field their dead and their armoured cars so as to flee quicker. Many U.S. and puppet troops either surrendered to, or were captured by, the P.L.A.F.

In conclusion, the communiqué stressed: "Our victories in Tay Ninh together with the fresh victories of our army and people conquering South Viet Nam have created more favourable conditions for our army and people to dash forward and defeat the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen completely."

SINCE Johnson announced "limited bombing" of North Viet Nam on March 31 last, the U.S. has been concentrating air bombings and strafings on populated centres and agricultural areas from Thanh Hoa to the demilitarized zone. These attacks have increased 3 times and the amount of bombs and shells more than 7 times compared with the first three months of this year.

The U.S. aggressors' carefully planned raids on farming areas indicate their vicious scheme to deny food to the Vietnamese people.

1. SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF WATER CONSERVANCY WORKS

To hurt food production most in hitting water conservancy works, U.S. planes selected targets accord-

ing to weather conditions. In the dry season from April to June, when water was badly needed in the fields for the growth of rice and vegetables, they centered their attacks on dams, pumping stations, sluices, canals or they struck at sea dykes to let salt water in.

Over 300 sorties were flown against 17 dams. Cam Ly for instance, servicing tens of thousands of hectares of land in 2 districts of Quang Binh, was raided 30 times.

The 2 large pumping stations of Linh Cam and Thanh Lam, Ha Tinh province, were constantly under fire. In April and May, Linh Cam station was attacked 28 times.

Besides, 12 canals, 13 canal networks and 3 networks of sea dykes were also assaulted. On June 13, U.S. planes dumped bombs on Truc Ly dyke, Quang Binh province, and salt water flowing in

through the breaches ruined tens of hectares of ricefield. In the rains from July to September, they launched more than 200 attacks against sea dykes, destroying 50 dyke sections.

On June 13, 14 and 18, 120 demolition bombs were dropped over 7 dyke sections of the La river in Ha Tinh. In July, 4 dyke sections along the Gianh river were hit, 2 of them 7 times and were heavily damaged; 30,000 cubic metres of earth were blasted away. On August 17, 6 F-4s set on 2 dyke sections of the Lam river in Nghe An and seriously damaged the dyke. Then when the people were repairing it, the planes came in again and released 60 demolition and blast bombs, killing 2 and wounding 28

others. Recently, on September 9, taking advantage of the storm, 2 U.S. planes dropped 8 demolition bombs and fired 4 rounds of rockets on a dyke section of the Lam river, blasting off 800 cubic metres of earth. Four hours later, they came back for another strike with 10 demolition bombs on Hung Chau dyke, same river, blowing off 400 cubic metres of earth, killing 2 people who were repairing the project.

2. ATTACKS ON FOOD-PRODUCING MANPOWER, LAND AND MEANS AND FOOD RESERVES

ALL the 23 villages of Vinh Linh area, 122 out of 131 villages of

Quang Binh province, 214 out of 254 villages of Ha Tinh province, 285 out of 426 villages of Nghe An province have been targets to continuous attacks with a high concentration of bombs and shells. In July and August, they received a daily average of 2,000 demolition bombs and 70 C.B.U.s which destroyed houses, domestic animals, farming co-ops in Vinh Linh area have been destroyed by U.S. bombs and shells.

B-52 strategic bombers launched fierce attacks against Vinh Linh, destroying large areas. In the past 5 months, 60 B-52 carpet bombings have been carried out against 22 villages with 20,000 tons of bombs, killing or wounding hundreds of

people, destroying thousands of houses and a great amount of food and vegetables.

State farms and agricultural cooperatives, research centres and centres for technical training and organization of food production have been subject to round-the-clock raids. U.S. planes and warships bombarded 7 state farms and over 400 agricultural co-ops; all agricultural co-ops in Vinh Linh area have been destroyed by U.S. bombs and shells.

When rice and maize were in ears, they were razed by steel-pellet and demolition bombs. In April and May, over 2,000 hectares of rice and vegetables in Quang Binh were devastated by thousands of steel-pellet and demolition bombs. In Thanh Lang alone

(west of Quang Binh), 100 hectares of maize were attacked by such bombs. In the DMZ, about 1,000 hectares of ricefield belonging to Vinh Tan, Vinh Giang, Vinh Thanh, Vinh Quang, Vinh Son were damaged beyond repair. In July alone, B-52s undertook 44 carpet-bombings against more than 300 hectares of ricecrops and vegetables.

At harvest time, steel-pellet and time bombs were dropped to interfere with the farmer's work. In June, at Bo Trach, Quang Binh, 1,000 hectares of ripening rice were littered with time-bombs. In Phu Khanh hamlet (Bo Trach) and Phu Hai hamlet (Dong Ho) 80 time - demolition bombs and over 20,000 steel-pellet bombs were showered on 40 hectares of rice with the

aim of preventing the harvest. They also took advantage of the dry west wind from Laos to napalm fields under rice. In July, many incendiary bombs were dropped on the ricefields in 6 villages in Quang Binh, Le Thy, Bo Trach, setting afire tens of hectares of crops.

After the harvest, as rice and potatoes were drying in the courtyards or already stored in barns, they were destroyed by demolition bombs and rockets.

In July and August, more than 400 agricultural crops were bombed and strafed, and hosts of store houses, courtyards, etc., destroyed. In July, 103 agricultural co-ops came under attack; in August, this figure shot up to 252. On July 16, 68 demolition

blast bombs were rained on 3 agricultural co-ops in Nghe An, destroying 270 dwellings, the co-ops' store houses and courtyards. On August 21, 4 co-ops in Ha Tinh were hit by 62 demolition bombs, 8 blast bombs, 4 C.B.U.s; 150 houses were burned down, much property and food was destroyed.

3 - SYSTEMATIC MASSACRE OF DRAFT ANIMALS

ON May 10, U.S. planes killed with 4 C.B.U.s 54 buffaloes and oxen in Thanh Lam hamlet, Quang Binh province. On June 13, another 40 buffaloes and oxen fell to steel-pellet bombs in Hoa Lac hamlet. On August 29, they attacked the cattle in Minh Loc village,

Ha Tinh province, with 8 C.B.U.s, rockets and atom shells, killing over 100 buffaloes and oxen grazing in the field.

4 - SAVAGE ATTACKS AGAINST PEASANTS WORKING IN THE FIELD

DURING the harvesting of the summer crops, U.S. planes released steel-pellet bombs and fired Shrikes missiles on ripening ricefields, killing or wounding dozens of people in Quang Binh and Vinh Linh in the studied area. On June 24, 12 U.S. planes used 5 C.B.U.s, 20 demolition bombs and fired 4 missiles against 30 peasants who were harvesting rice or picking potatoes on the Minh Le field (Quang Binh) killing 6 and wounding 16. On May 17, U.S. guns directed by reconnaissance planes, pounded Liem bombs in Hoa Lac hamlet, killing 3 people who were weeding.

VET NAM AND THE WORLD AT LARGE

WORLD SUPPORT FOR STRUGGLE

"WE Vietnamese people, are fighting the greatest war of resistance in our history. For the independence and freedom of our Fatherland, in the interests of the socialist camp, of the oppressed and of the whole of progressive mankind, and in the fighting and inflicting defeats on the wicked foe in the world. Our homeland is the scene of an all-out justice versus injustice, civilization versus brutality fight. The peoples of the fraternal socialist countries and progressive people in all the world are daily following the developments in Viet Nam with deep admiration for our compatriots and fighters and wholeheartedly assisting our people in their sacred resistance to U.S. aggression for national salvation."

This appeal made on the occasion of the 30th of July 1966 by President Ho Chi Minh, the great leader of the Vietnamese people, throws light on the great significance of the hard but extremely valiant struggle of the 31 million Vietnamese in both the North and the South against U.S. imperialist aggression. It reflects a lively and multifaceted reality which can be seen daily and hourly in all parts of the world: mankind is giving wholehearted support to the Vietnamese people fighting against U.S. aggression to save their country, sharing the sacrifices brought them by the U.S. aggressors and at the same time taking pride in the victories achieved so far by the Vietnamese people in their confrontation with some 1.2 million U.S. puppet and satellite troops armed to the teeth.

Support for Puerto Rico and Mozambique peoples' struggle

IN order to push up the world movement of support for the struggle of the Puerto Rican people against U.S. imperialism and that of the Mozambique people against Portuguese colonialism, the First Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Conference decided to observe Sept. 23 and Sept. 25 as respective international days of solidarity with the people of those two countries.

The Puerto Rican people have a long tradition of struggle for independence, for over a hundred years ago, on Sept. 23, 1868, when the country was under Spanish domination, an armed uprising broke out, marking a glorious episode in their history. At present, Puerto Rico is virtually a colony and military base of the U.S.A.

THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE IS BACKED BY MEN OF THE WORLD

THE international anti-U.S. and pro-Viet Nam movement has now extended beyond the limits of a people and a country; in the world has taken shape a people's front against U.S. imperialism, embracing not only many governments but also many peace and democratic organizations and movements, and many social strata irrespective of religious belief and color of skin.

Apart from the governments of the Socialist countries, many governments of the independent countries and some governments of the U.S. allies have raised their voice for the legitimate struggle of the Vietnamese people.

The Swedish Foreign Minister once declared: "At present, the viewpoint of the U.S. and that of the confederates on the Viet Nam question cannot be reconciled."

On September 1, 1966, in Phnom Penh, a city several hundred kilometers from the South Viet Nam battlefield, French President De Gaulle issued a statement of solidarity with the Vietnamese people, an allegation about "aggression against South Viet Nam from the North" was a "national disgrace."

Right in the United Nations, U.S. prestige is on the wane. Every year, at the approach of the September session of the U.N. General Assembly, the U.S. representative is seized with anxiety because of the growing loss of votes against the U.S.: from 1965 to 1967, the number of countries supporting U.S. policy on Viet Nam dropped from 33 to 20

while that of countries supporting the Vietnamese people's anti-U.S. struggle went up from 21 to 41.

International mass organizations such as the World Council of Peace, the World Federation of Trade Unions, the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the Women's International Democratic Federation, etc., and many other organizations such as the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, the Tri-continental People's Solidarity Organization, etc., give warm support to Viet Nam.

Well-known intellectuals, scientists, philosophers, lawyers, professors, writers and journalists round the world are, in general, on the side of the Vietnamese people. World Conference of Lawyers for Viet Nam which opened in Geneva (France) on July 7, 1968 with the participation of 50 delegates from more than 40 countries, whose contents unanimously approved that "the war waged by the U.S. in Viet Nam is an aggression, a crime against the independence and existence of the Vietnamese people and the peoples of the world."

French writer Jean Paul Sartre (France) in his Bertrand Russell International Tribunal, had this to say about the Vietnamese people: "Those men, women and children whom the most powerful nation on earth has been trying to bring to their knees through the use of the most criminal means, I see in their eyes neither fear nor discouragement, but must often anger and always a

resolve that is not grim, but reasoned and reasonable. I could say wholly natural."

W. Burchett, an outstanding Australian journalist, the author of the "Three Months with South Vietnamese guerrillas" defined every word and travelled through the length and breadth of South Viet Nam to write articles describing the valiant struggle of the South Vietnamese people to liberate their country from the U.S. aggressor.

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colonialists have mounted many repressive raids against them, the Vietnamese people have also resisted the tendency to stand aloof from the struggle. In the United States itself, many religious communities have strongly opposed the Johnson Administration's war policy. Support-Viet Nam actions conducted by the late Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. and the late Chaplain William Slovic Coffin Jr., the collection of money in France for Viet Nam N.F.L. and the people of North Viet Nam, the founding of the "Executive of Businessmen against the Vietnam War" by other religious communities in the U.S. have been reported of late against the military and economic bases.

As to the struggle of the Mozambique people, it was towards Viet Nam in 1964 by a group of fighters armed with rudimentary weapons. To-day it is being carried out by tens of thousands of pagillions episode in their history. At present, Puerto Rico is virtually a colony and military base of the U.S.A.

PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH CONGRATULATES SOVIET LEADERS AND PEOPLE ON SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT

To Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Comrade N. V. Podgorny, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., Comrade A.M. Koyanin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers,

"On behalf of the Vietnamese people, the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, I am very glad to extend to you and to the Soviet people, the Communist Party and Government of the Soviet Union my warmest congratulations on the new Soviet wonderful feat in flying the 'Zond 5' unmanned craft around the moon and bring it safely back to earth. Please convey to the Soviet scientists, engineers and workers who have contributed to this tremendous success our most cordial greetings."

Hanoi, September 23, 1968

With communist salutations
HO CHI MINH

SUPPORT VIET NAM IN EVERY WAY

SUPPORT is being given to the Vietnamese people's struggle in varied forms. The socialist countries have appeared even to children in the States. Barbara Steller has struck fear in the hearts of U.S. troops in the Pentagon with her verses exposing the crimes of the U.S. aggression. In the U.S. Congress, on Nov. 3, 1967, at a grand meeting held in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, Leonid Brezhnev, Premier of the U.S.S.R., declared, "The Soviet Union is strongly resolved to give maximum aid and support to the fraternal Vietnamese people in their struggle for a just cause." Recently at a reception in honor of Le Thanh Nghi, head of the visiting D.R.V.N. Government, Chinese Premier Chou En-lai stated, "China will do all in her power to support and assist the Vietnamese people in their struggle against the U.S. aggressor completely."

In the newly-independent Arab capitalist countries, demonstrations, meetings and teach-ins have been held to support for the legitimate demands of the D.R.V.N. Government for a U.S. unconditional end to its aggression and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the D.R.V.N.

Why such a SUPPORT? Because "it is in Viet Nam that the fate of the world is being decided. It is in Viet Nam that culture and civilization on our globe are being decided. The premise stake is no other than the freedom and dignity of mankind."

(Resolution of the World Cultural Congress in Havana-January 1968).

Editor's note: In a long speech delivered last month at the Club in Saigon, Mac Donald, Head of U.S.O.N.U. boasted that U.S. aid had helped Saigon "raise its economy," "increase food production" etc.. To have the late nature of "U.S. economic and technical aid," instrument of U.S. neo-imperialism, we have selected some excerpts from an article published by Cong Loan, a Saigonite, in the People's Voice, a revolutionary newspaper, which throws light on the sad plight of the economy in the various areas of South Viet Nam after the last 15 years.

FOR over ten years now, Viet Nam (South Viet Nam) has been forced to develop an agricultural economy of its own. The aid is not only to the Viet Nam but essentially because Saigon's economy has been entirely dependent on U.S. aid. U.S. economic

assistance has indeed only been a trick to find out for American surplus goods. With U.S. aid, the economy of short duration, it has in no way contributed to the growth of Viet Nam's economy.

U.S. aid does not consist of the production such as factories or complexes of machines but only of consumer goods. The Viet Nam administration has been selling these U.S. products to the people and to finance its budget. Meanwhile, for the benefit of U.S. capitalist circles, the U.S. administration has been paying in dollars for surplus goods.

In other words, U.S. economic aid is only a means of exporting its products. Washington buys goods from American firms and sends them to the recipient country. Of course, if U.S. aid consisted of machines

the U.S. aggressor side by the Vietnamese people. Blood donation to South Viet Nam Liberation fighters has become widespread in many countries.

In the U.S. in particular, the "beat-the-drum" and "draft-card-burning" movement has been widely spread, and led by the students. Of late, American servicemen in Viet Nam, have said "No" to the unjust U.S. war in Viet Nam. These anti-war groups have won the approval and support right at home and abroad.

The Viet Nam War helps the U.S. aggressor to more deeply the nature of imperialism which is struggling to expand its territory by indulging in intervention and aggression. It is the most dangerous enemy of all nations. Consequently, as universal support to Viet Nam increases and broadens, it strengthens its links with the struggle of the people of America and the rest of the world to never forget the self-immolation by Norman Morrison and Mrs. Helga who set noble examples of protest against U.S. authorities.

In supporting the just struggle of the Vietnamese people, many governments and mass organizations have stressed the necessity to settle the Viet Nam problem on the basis of the 4 points of the D.R.V.N. Government and the N.F.L. Since the Vietnam People's Republic was proclaimed in Paris, the D.R.V.N. and U.S. Governments, thousands of letters and messages have been flowing in from various parts of the world.

Speaking at a reception given in Phnom Penh on May 15, 1968, the Cambodian King, Norodom Sihanouk, declared: "To support the Vietnamese patriots fighting against foreign aggression is for us a sacred task."

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Consequently, the Vietnamese thought of solving the problem in a different way. Two years ago, warehouses in all forms included in Viet Nam were built, which have been glutting the Viet Nam market with American goods. Shops and streets have

been brimming with U.S. products. Home production has gradually decreased. Homegrown rice has all of a sudden disappeared for two years and we have had to live on rice from Thailand, U.S.A. and Taiwan channelled through the U.S. War Relocation Authority. Later, we had to rely on the market.

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SAIGON'S 15 YEARS OF SUBSISTENCE ON U.S. AID

which would enable Viet Nam to produce consumer goods herself, would the U.S.A. still have been the U.S.A. market for her own? Moreover, the U.S. commodities being of higher quality, Viet Nam-made articles—if any—would have been soon out of the market.

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The Minister of Economy, who is optimistic about the future, has of course a rosier view. He simply thinks that the more we import, the lower prices will go down and that we have to buy only 100,000 tons. He is of the opinion that we shall have to import only little rice, probably because having great confidence in the variety of goods which have been imported on an experimental basis, has multiplied to seven its annual output. With the risks of the present war, can such a previous inspiration be optimism? Import of goods turns in the same vicious circle, whether it be aid from the U.S.A. or from Japan, Taiwan or Germany. Prices are kept not because of goods shortage but of other economic and political reasons. Great abundance of commodities results in a glut of goods, merchandise, a state much dreaded by our businessmen.

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The Vietnamese language...

(Continued from page 3)

wait until compilation work in this field was completed to begin teaching in Vietnamese. In such circumstances, relying on patriotism and national pride, the Education Ministry persevered in promoting the use of Vietnamese as a medium of higher education. The Ministry commended a number of professors for their distinguished performances in teaching in Vietnamese. On the other hand, the published special periodicals introduced education to the people for mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, etc., in Vietnamese. Scientific textbooks were revised and further enriched and today have made up rather perfect scientific terminologies known up to standard as to accuracy, comprehensiveness for the masses and convenient in use as a medium at present, Vietnamese is used as a medium at 285 middle vocational schools. Teaching and learning in Vietnamese takes longer a matter for discussion or a doubt, even far-fetched.

FACTS about the 23 years of educational buildup in the D.R.V.N. prove that the Vietnamese language is an efficient instrument to develop national democratic education (1945-1954) and science education (since 1954). The teaching and learning in Vietnamese, in general as well as in higher education, has yielded abundant crop of young people and new intellectuals with both high political consciousness and high professional qualification. A development in the national culture contributes to further enrichment and embellishment of the national culture.

Our mother tongue is keeping the Vietnamese national struggle. The longer our people fight, the more they are imbued with the national spirit. The great vitality and purity of the Vietnamese language will also be a factor in our passing day.

Our schools at all levels are straining to train the young generations to speak and write in Vietnamese to make it purer, richer and more beautiful and deserved to be the national language which is determined to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors.

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

Military Operations

MILITARY reports released by **Giai Phong Press** Agency during the past week brought out the major aspects of the war.

On the one hand, a big wave of attacks accompanied by popular uprisings swept the provinces of Central Truong Bo, from Da Nang to Nha Trang, on the night of Sept. 21 to Sept. 22 and the following days. More than a hundred air bases, H.Q.'s, military positions and administrative centres were pounded, and came under infantry attacks, some of them taken by storm. Enemy losses amounted to thousands of killed or wounded.

On the other hand, in the Tay Ninh, Loc Ninh and Eastern Nam Ho areas, the P.L.A.F. continued to wipe out substantial enemy man-power and war materiel. More than 5,000 U.S. puppet and satellite (Thai) troops were killed, wounded or captured, according to reports reaching here. The same sources underscored the fact that 9 enemy battalions (including 4 American) and 9 companies (including 7 American) were put out of action in a 9-day period (from Sept. 13 to Sept. 21). Many convoys of dozens of armoured cars were completely destroyed and big guns

destroyed by the dozens.

Thus, the South Vietnamese people and their armed forces commemorated in a worthy manner the anniversary of the launching on Sept. 23, 1945 in Saigon of the first National Resistance Movement. The imperialist aggression by French colonialists backed and paid by Washington.

COASTAL PROVINCES OF CENTRAL TRUONG BO

In one night, the enemy simultaneously assaulted in Da Nang, Hoi An, Tam Ky, Quang Ngai, Nha Trang and 120 military bases including 17 airfields.

THIS new wave of offensives and uprisings erupted on the night of Sept. 21 to Sept. 22 in the coastal provinces of Central Truong Bo lying between the 12th and 16th parallels. P.L.A.F. infantry was involved in three-fourths of these actions, many of which were directed against the two largest cities of this sector—Da Nang and Nha Trang—whose airfields, including those at Nuoc Man and Chu Lai were targets to violent attacks. The H.Q.'s of the puppet First Division and the Amical Division and

the U.S. 108th Brigade and many U.S. puppet and South Korean Regiment and Battalion C.P.'s suffered serious losses in men and materiel. At the Nuoc Man helicopter base, 50 ships and numerous warehouses were destroyed. At least 5 huge fuel depots burned for 24 hours at the Lien Chau rear base which was turned into an immense sea of fire. On an auxiliary terrain near Chu Lai, fire and explosions ravaged a parking lot where 3 aircraft had been mustered for a planned operation next day.

The operations in the Dien Ban sector, South of Da Nang, the same **Giai Phong Press** Agency assessed, in the 5 days ending Sept. 17, cost the U.S.-puppet forces 690 men put out of action. The puppet formed by the grouping of Rangers lost one battalion destroyed (the 30th, on Sept. 17, the last issue), another decimated (the 21st) and the third badly wounded (the 37th).

TAY NINH

In 5 days, 4 U.S. puppet battalions and 2 companies written off the muster roll, one battalion and 3 other companies decimated.

Giai Phong Press Agency reported 3 major combats on Sept. 19 by the Tay Ninh P.L.A.F. and heavy pounding of many enemy positions.

A T Ben San (6 km south of Ben Cai and 30 km East-southeast of Tay Ninh), they inflicted serious losses on a puppet battalion. The second battle took place in the afternoon at Hiep Thanh, 4 km north of Gai Dau (28 km south-southwest of Tay Ninh): after a 2-hour furious melee, the Liberation fighters put out of action a U.S. battalion, killed or wounded more than 350 GIs, destroyed 9 armoured cars and brought down 2 helicopter gunships. At 13 hours, the same day, the 3rd P.L.A.F. onslaught was made against a U.S. entrenched position of Ben Cai: a U.S. mixed battalion was wiped out together with 2 battalions of puppet infantry companies, an artillery company and an engineering company and more than 400 GIs put out of action, some two vehicles and six 107-mm heavy mortars destroyed. This was the 4th time in 10 days that the P.L.A.F. had chalked up great victories at Ben Cai since Sept. 17, last one of U.S. mixed battalion was destroyed.

On the night of Sept. 19 to Sept. 20, to 20 km West of Southeast of Tay Ninh, the Tapang Robon post was taken and its one puppet company strong garrison put out of action. Next day, a puppet marine battalion and several regional troop companies sent in were immediately overwhelmed by a violent onset of the patriots who wiped out this battalion and one of the regional troop companies.

On Sept. 16 and 17, apart from the battles mentioned

in our last issue, three other successes of the P.L.A.F. were reported. At 2.40 hours, Sept. 16, the P.L.A.F. fell on a U.S. entrenched position, the most powerful blow being directed against Cao Xu, 40 km Southeast of Tay Ninh. After 70 minutes' fighting, they put out of action a U.S. artillery battalion and 2 infantry companies and decimated a Ranger company of the U.S. rear air mobile division: 450 GIs killed or wounded, 16 107mm howitzers and 106-mm mortars and 12 vehicles destroyed and 2 choppers shot down.

On Sept. 16, in an ambush on the Tay Ninh—Da Nang route, a U.S. company, 26 vehicles and 280 GIs were put out of action. On Sept. 17, the ambush on the same road took a toll of another U.S. company.

In all, in this province, in a 6-day period ending Sept. 21, 4 U.S. battalions and 5 companies and one puppet battalion and 2 companies were destroyed, another puppet battalions and 2 U.S. companies decimated. More than 2,000 adverse troops were put out of action, 25 vehicles destroyed and 10 choppers downed.

OTHER SECTORS

OF NAM BO

A convoy of 50 tanks and armoured cars withdrawn from Loc Ninh completely destroyed on Highway No. 12.

A Thai battalion wiped out within 30 minutes near Loc Thanh.

Heavy enemy losses in the Mekong Delta.

ON Sept. 18, a 52-vehicle convoy withdrawing from Loc Ninh on the direction of Hon Quan, capital of Binh Long province, was completely destroyed. The P.L.A.F. waited until the enemy came well inside the trap, to cut down the leading tanks and those in the rear column. Immediately after the patriots charged the remaining vehicles pinned down by a 3 km artillery barrage and destroyed them with grenades and plastics while 300 GIs of the big units were killed or quickly rendered harmless.

On the night of Sept. 20 to Sept. 21, they struck at a battalion of Thai mercenaries based at Binh Son airfield, near Long Thanh, some 30 km East of Saigon. After 30 minutes' fighting, the P.L.A.F. completely destroyed this battalion and made a big haul of war materiel.

In the Eastern provinces of Nam Bo (North, Northeast and Southeast of Saigon), the activity of the guerrillas and regional troops was very active in the first 2 weeks of September: at least 650 enemy soldiers were put out of action.

In the Mekong Delta, Ben Tre province has once again lived up its reputation.

Within a week from Sept. 12 to Sept. 18 at least 1,200 enemy troops (mostly G.I.'s) were put out of action and 21 war vessels burnt or sunk.

In **My Tho** province, between Sept. 14 and 20, attacks and popular uprisings flared up in the provincial capital and 4 urban centres and along Highway No. 4 linking Saigon to the Mekong Delta.

In **Can Tho** province, in the first 20 days of September, the P.L.A.F. put out of action more than 600 enemy soldiers during fighting in Can Tho city and important centres. They also destroyed or shot down 22 planes and planes and helicopters and wrecked 26 military vehicles.

IN OTHER PARTS OF SOUTH VIET NAM

Serious enemy losses in Tay Nguyen (Western Highlands).

Sub-sector H.Q. taken in Binh Thuan province.

Successes of the patriots southeast of Hue.

ON Sept. 23 at 8 km southeast of **Duc Lap**, G.P. Press Agency related, the P.L.A.F. wiped out a 100-man Boin H.S. 173rd airborne brigade and shot down 3 choppers, bringing to 3 the number of U.S. companies destroyed in this sector since Sept. 7.

45 km northeast of Buon Me Thuot, from Sept. 16 to 19 the patriots of Boin H.S. rose up and broke the enemy's grip, doing away with 140 agents of the enemy.

In **Pleiku**, one puppet company and 2 platoons were wiped out and 2 cannons and 6 vehicles destroyed between Sept. 13 and 21.

In the coastal fringe, about 200 km East-Northeast of Saigon, the Hoa Da sub-sector H.Q. in Binh Thuan province was taken on Sept. 18. The P.L.A.F. killed, wounded or captured more than 250 men there, including a major and a captain.

In **Phu Loc** district, Southeast of Hue city, from Sept. 18 to Sept. 20, the patriots put out of action 200 adverse troops, and destroyed 85 military vehicles, eight 175mm and 105mm howitzers and some one hundred tent barracks.

TAY NINH FRONT

In five week, 15 battalions (including 14 American) and 42 companies (including 28 American) wiped out, 14,000 men were put out of action (including 10,000 G.I.), 1,355 vehicles (252 tanks and 108 107mm and 138 pieces of artillery destroyed, and 73 planes and helicopters shot down.

Page 5

Sad Plight of Thai and Other Mercenaries in South Viet Nam

ON the night of Sept. 20 to Sept. 21, the P.L.A.F. destroyed a whole battalion of Thai mercenaries near Long Thanh, some 30 km East of Saigon and at the same distance from the important U.S. Binh Hoa base to the Southeast. This was the first—and not the last—hard delivered to the "Black Panthers" and "Queen's Cobras" dispatched to South Viet Nam by Bangkok's shady dictators in exchange for some additional million dollars from Washington. These "volunteers" received essentially against the outcasts of a society depraved by American aid, these troops, "the worst soldiers in the world" as U.S. officers harshly term them, thus had a taste of the disaster already experienced by the South Korean, Filipino, Australian and New Zealand confederates.

The principle has been cynically established since the Truman time that the war must be fought with American arms and other supplies. As Washington hopes to find in it a remedy for its chronic ailment, namely, the shortage of troops for Abrams' military forces. Dollars have been poured out to obtain mercenaries from satellite countries. These poor young people, not so well armed and equipped as the Americans, have been much less paid than the latter, have been sent in their place to the most dangerous spots.

However, the withdrawal of the patriotic war has demonstrated that this policy is but a

pollutive whose effect is quite transient. The "Blue Dragons", "Royal Tigers" and "White Horzes" sent by Seoul have been trounced in the provinces of Central Truong Bo. Their most disastrous defeat so far occurred on Feb. 15, 1967 in Quang Thanh near the U.S. Chu Lai base, where a battalion of 420 "Dragons" was completely wiped out in its very stronghold. The Australian of the Royal Australian Regiment and the Kiwis who look like U.S. country cousins have sustained serious losses in the Binh Hoa—Ba Ria sectors east of Saigon. Their latest defeat took place on May 13, 1968 at So Hoi, northwest of Binh Hoa: one battalion and one company were put out of action, losing more than 200 men. Filipino mercenaries supplied by the Marcos clique have been decimated together with the U.S. "Tropic Lightning" division, which arrived at their shield, and—

"The recent thrashing taken by Thai mercenaries is an additional count in the indictment of the politicians in Washington, who will inevitably give a new impetus to the movement of protest unleashed by the people of the United States of the people of Sydney, Wellington, Manila, Seoul or Bangkok against these governments which, disregarding national interest, only seek to fatten their bank accounts at the expense of the lives of their young fellow-citizens thrown into Washington's service.